by the Integrated Steel Plants of Steel Authority of India Limited during first six months of the calendar year 1994 (January-June, 1994) has been 4.445 million tonnes.

(b) The value of exports and domestic sales of the Steel Authority of India Limited during the period January to June, 1994 is as follows:

Export	Rs. 240 crores (Approx.)
Domestic Sales	Rs. 6500 crores (Approx.)
TOTAL	Rs. 6740 crores (Approx.)

(c) The Foreign Exchange earned by Steel Authority of India Limited from exports during the period January to June, 1994 is Rs. 240 crores (Approx.) as against Rs. 250 crores (Approx.) during the corresponding period last year.

Setting up Steel Plant in Bihar

655. SHRI AAS MOHAMMAD : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to steate :

(a) whether any proposal to set up steel plant in Bihar has been pending for clearance for a long time ;

(b) if so, when the proposal was received ;

(c) the reasons for delay in giving clerance to it ; and

(d) the time by which the project is likely to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (d) One proposal of M/s. Ashiana Alloys & Steels Ltd. for garnt of industrial licence for manufacture of Mild Steel Ingots & Steel Castings for an annual capacity of 13,500 Metric Tonnes at Digha Ghat, Patna, Bihar was received in June, 1994. The proposal has already been examined and an appropriate communication will be issued shortly to the applicant.

EURO issue of the Vizaga pattinam Steel Plant

656. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Vizagapattinam Steel Euro issue that has been floated to mobilise funds is losing Rs. one crore a day because the shares are not being sold according to specified time; and

(b) if so, the steps Government are taking to streamline the sale of the Euro issue in the international market ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Mechanical equipment for furnace at Bokaro Steel Plant

657. SHRI MD. SALIM : SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Metallurgical and Engineering Consultents India Limited (MECON) a PSU, has made an MOU with Binny Limited a private company in December, 1993, although Binny Limited is under Board of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) ;